CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method for attracting social insects selected from the group consisting of carpenter ants, fire ants, *Coptotermes* Formosan termites and *Reticulitermes* termites, consisting essentially of treating an infested locus with an effective dose of a preconidial mycelia of an entomopathogenic fungi prior to the formation of structures leading to the release of air-borne spores, wherein the preconidial mycelia is grown on a solid culture media selected from the group consisting of grains, sawdust, sugar cane, corn cobs, cardboard, paper and cellulose containing substances, and wherein the preconidial mycelia is provided in an amount sufficient to act as both an insect attractant and an insect pathogen.

2. The method for attracting social insects of claim 1 wherein hyphal fragments of the preconidial mycelia act as an initial vector of parasitization.

3. The method for attracting social insects of claim 1, wherein the preconidial mycelia is a *Beauveria bassiana* effective against carpenter ants.

4. The method according to claim 1 wherein the preconidial mycelia is metabolically arrested and subsequently metabolically reactivated.

5. The method according to claim 4 wherein the preconidial mycelia is metabolically arrested by a method selected from the group consisting of freeze-drying and drying and is subsequently metabolically reactivated by

rehydration.

6. The method according to claim 4 wherein the preconidial mycelia is metabolically arrested by a method selected from the group consisting of refrigeration and cryogenic suspension and subsequently metabolically reactivated by warming.

7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the preconidial mycelia additionally comprises *Metarhizium anisopliae*.

8. A method for attracting carpenter ants, consisting essentially of treating an infested locus with an effective dose of a preconidial mycelia of an entomopathogenic fungi prior to the formation of structures leading to the release of air-borne spores, wherein the preconidial mycelia is provided in an amount sufficient to act as both an insect attractant and an insect pathogen, wherein the preconidial mycelia is a *Beauveria bassiana* grown on a solid culture media, wherein the preconidial fungal mycelia is metabolically arrested by a method selected from the group consisting of freeze-drying, drying, refrigeration and cryogenic suspension and subsequently metabolically reactivated by a method selected from the group consisting of rehydration and warming, and wherein the solid culture media is selected from the group consisting of grain, sawdust, sugar cane, corn cobs, cardboard and paper.

9. A method for attracting carpenter ants consisting essentially of

treating an infested locus with an effective dose of a preconidial mycelia of an entomopathogenic fungi prior to the formation of structures leading to the release of air-borne spores, wherein the preconidial mycelia is a *Beauveria bassiana* effective against carpenter ants, wherein the preconidial mycelia is provided in an amount sufficient to act as both an insect attractant and an insect pathogen and wherein the preconidial mycelia is grown on a solid culture media is selected from the group consisting of grain, sawdust, sugar cane, corn cobs, cardboard and paper.